a first transmission device transmitting, to said image server, a command to transmit a thumbnail of the film image data that has undergone direction conversion processing and stored in said image server; and

C1 a second transmission device transmitting, to said image server, display information relating to said display device, said first and second transmission devices transmitting the respective command and display information to reduce the amount of film image data that said image server is required to process, and

wherein said image server comprises:

a data quantity reduction device reducing the data quantity of the film image data to be transmitted to editing image data and further reducing to thumbnail image data, in response to the image transmission command transmitted from said first transmission device transmitting the thumbnail image data to the client computer, in response to the display information transmitted from said second transmission device transmitting the editing image data to the client computer, the thumbnail image data and the editing image data displayed in a correct direction on the display device due to the display direction conversion processing, and

an image data transmission device transmitting, to said client computer, the reduced film image data.

C2 2. (Twice Amended) The image communication system according to claim 1,

wherein the display information is information relating to the maximum number of colors which can be displayed on said display device, and

wherein said data quantity reduction device includes color reduction means for reducing a number of colors of an image

represented by the editing image data to be transmitted on the basis of the information relating to the maximum number of colors.

3. (Twice Amended) The image communication system according to claim 1,

wherein the display information is information relating to the resolution of said display device, and

wherein said data quantity reduction device includes thinning means for thinning out the editing image data on the basis of the information relating to the resolution, to be transmitted in response to the image transmission command, so as to reduce the data quantity of the film image data.

4. (Twice Amended) The image communication system according to claim 1, wherein said image server further includes:

a printer for printing an image, and

color conversion processing means for performing color conversion processing on the reduced film image data on the basis of data representing characteristics of said display device.

5. (Three Times Amended) An image server used in an image communication system in which the image server and a client computer having a display device are capable of communicating with each other, wherein the image server stores film image data that has undergone display direction conversion processing, the film image data representing an image, comprising:

a receiving device receiving a command from a first transmission device in said client computer to transmit a reduced film image data generated from the film image data and stored in said image server, and to display information relating to said

display device that is transmitted from a second transmission device from said client computer, said first and second transmission devices transmitting the respective command and display information to reduce the amount of image data that said image server is required to process;

a data quantity reduction device reducing the data quantity of the film image data to be transmitted on the basis of received display information; and

an image data transmission device transmitting, to said client computer, the reduced film image data subjected to display direction conversion processing such that the film image data is displayed in correct direction on said display device.

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6. (Twice Amended) The image server according to claim 5,

wherein the display information is information relating to the maximum number of colors which can be displayed on said display device, and

wherein said data quantity reduction device includes color reduction means for reducing a number of colors of an image represented by the film image data to be transmitted on the basis of the information relating to the maximum number of colors.

7. (Twice Amended) The image server according to claim 5,

wherein the display information is information relating to the resolution of said display device, and

wherein said data quantity reduction device includes thinning means for thinning out the film image data to be transmitted on the basis of the information relating to the resolution.

8. (Twice Amended) The image server according to claim 5,

further comprising:

a printer for printing an image, and

color conversion processing means for performing color conversion processing of the reduced film image data on the basis of data representing characteristics of said display device.

9. (Three Times Amended) A client computer having a display device used in an image communication system in which an image server storing film image data representing an image and the client computer are capable of communicating with each other, comprising:

a first transmission device transmitting, to said image server, a command to transmit a thumbnail film image data generated from the film image data stored in said image server, the thumbnail image data having been subjected to display direction conversion processing;

a second transmission device transmitting, to said image server, display information relating to said display device, said first and second transmission devices transmitting the respective command and display information to reduce the amount of film image data that said image server is required to process; and

a receiving device receiving the film image data reduced on the basis of the display information in said image server.

10. (Twice Amended) An image server used in an image communication system in which the image server having a printer and a client computer having a display device are capable of communicating with each other, comprising:

an image data reading device for reading film image data representing an image;

a first color conversion device for performing first

color conversion processing on the read film image data in accordance with a characteristic of the printer;

a printer controller for controlling the printer so as to print an image from the first color converted film image data;

a second color conversion device for performing second color conversion processing on the read film image data in accordance with a characteristic of the display device; and

an image data transmission device for transmitting the second color converted film image data to said client computer after subjecting the second color converted film image data to display direction conversion processing so that the film image is displayed on said display device in a correct direction.

12. (Twice Amended) A method of transmitting film image data in an image server used in an image communication system in which the image server having a printer and a client computer having a display device are capable of communicating with each other, comprising:

reading film image data representing an image;

performing a first color conversion processing on the read film image data in accordance with a characteristic of the printer;

controlling the printer so as to print an image from the first color converted film image data;

performing second color conversion processing on the read film image data in accordance with a characteristic of the display device; and

transmitting the second color converted film image data to said client computer after subjecting the second color converted film image data to display direction conversion processing so that the film image is displayed on said display device in a correct

direction.

13. (Three Times Amended) An image communication system in which an image server and an image data receiver having a display device are capable of communicating with each other,

wherein said image server comprises:

an image display data transmission device for transmitting image display data for displaying a plurality of sample film images in side by side fashion on the display device for comparison and selection by a user, each of said sample film images having different characteristics and being transmitted to said image data receiver after subjecting the sample film images to display direction conversion processing so that the sample film images are displayed in a correct direction, and

wherein said image data receiver comprises:

an image characteristics setting device for receiving the transmitted image display data, for displaying the plurality of sample film images on said display device on the basis of the received image display data, and for determining characteristics relating to the film image selected from the displayed sample images; and

an image characteristics data transmission device for transmitting data representing the determined image characteristics to said image server.

14. (Twice Amended) The image communication system according to claim 13, wherein said image display data transmission device transmits the image display data representing the plurality of film images having different tonalities to said image data receiver.

15. (Twice Amended) The image communication system according to claim 13,

wherein said image server further includes an image data transmission device for transmitting, if said image data receiver can change the characteristics of the image displayed on said display device, film image data whose characteristics have not been adjusted, while transmitting, if said image data receiver cannot change the characteristics of the image displayed on said display device, film image data whose characteristics has been adjusted in accordance with the image characteristics data transmitted from said image characteristics data transmission device to said image data receiver.

17. (Three Times Amended) An image data receiver having a display device used in an image communication system in which an image server and the image data receiver are capable of communicating with each other, comprising:

an image characteristics setting device for receiving the image display data for displaying a plurality of sample film images in side by side fashion on the display device for comparison and selection by a user, each of said sample film images having different characteristics and being transmitted from said image server after having been subjected to display direction conversion processing so that the sample film images are displayed in a correct direction, for displaying the plurality of sample film images on said display device on the basis of the received image display data, and for determining characteristics relating to the film image selected from the displayed sample film images; and

an image characteristics data transmission device transmitting data representing the determined image characteristics

C10 to said image server.

18. (Three Times Amended) In an image communication system in which an image server and an image data receiver having a display device are capable of communicating with each other, an image communication method comprising:

C11 transmitting image display data for displaying a plurality of sample film images in side by side fashion on the display device for comparison and selection by a user, each of said sample film images having different characteristics, said image display data being transmitted from said image server to said image data receiver;

receiving said transmitted image display in said image data receiver;

displaying the plurality of sample film images on said display device on the basis of the received image display data after subjecting the sample film images to display direction conversion processing so that the sample film images are displayed in a correct direction;

determining characteristics relating to the film image selected from the displayed sample film images; and

transmitting data representing the determined image characteristics from said image data receiver to said image server.

19. (Twice Amended) A client computer used in an image communication system in which an image server having an image output device for outputting a film image and the client computer are capable of communicating with each other, comprising:

an image data quantity reduction device for reducing the data quantity of film image data to be transmitted to said

image server, so that the data quantity of the film image data to be transmitted is equal to or less than the data quantity of the film image data representing the film image to be outputted from said image output device; and

an image data transmission device for transmitting the reduced film image data to said image server,

C11 wherein said image data quantity reduction device further includes:

print image area designation means for designating an image area to be printed of an image represented by film image data of one frame; and

partial image data extraction means for extracting partial image area data representing the designated image area from said film image data of one frame.

C12 23. (Twice Amended) A client computer used in an image communication system in which an image server and the client computer are capable of communicating with each other, comprising:

a compression rate setting device for setting the compression rate of film image data;

a calculation device for calculating information relating to time required for transmission in a case where the film image data compressed at the set compression rate is transmitted to said image server; and

a display device for displaying the information relating to the calculated time for transmission.

C13 25. (Three Times Amended) An image communication system in which an image server and a client computer are capable of communicating with each other, wherein film image data and

information relating to the film image data are transmitted from said client computer to said image server,

wherein said image server further includes:

an image output device for outputting a film image after subjecting the film image to display direction conversion processing, on the basis of the information relating to the film image data transmitted from said client computer; and

an image information transmission device for transmitting, to said client computer, the information relating to the film image data transmitted from said client computer,

wherein said client computer further includes a retrieval means for retrieving image data specified by the information relating to the film image data transmitted from said image server, and

wherein said image output device and said image information transmission device in said image server, and said retrieval means in said client computer are each separate and distinct components within the image communication system.

26. (Three Times Amended) A client computer used in an image communication system in which an image server having a printer and the client computer are capable of communicating with each other, comprising:

a receiving device for receiving a part of printing template image data, which is transmitted from said image server and represents a part of a window-synthesizing user film image, and which is used for printing processing in said printer; and

a synthesis device for synthesizing the received part of the printing template image data and a part of user film image data stored in the client computer.

27. (Twice Amended) A method of transmitting film image data from a client computer to an image server, the client computer and the image server being used in an image communication system in which the image server, having an image output device for outputting an image and said client computer are capable of communicating with each other, comprising:

reducing the data quantity of film image data to be transmitted to said image server so that the data quantity of the image data to be transmitted is equal to or less than the data quantity of the image data representing the image to be output; and

transmitting the reduced film image data to said image server

wherein the step of reducing further includes:

designating an image area to be printed of an image represented by image data of one frame; and

extracting partial image area data representing the designated image area from said film image data of one frame.

28. (Twice Amended) A method of displaying information in a client computer which is used in an image communication system in which an image server and the client computer are capable of communicating with each other, comprising:

setting the compression rate of film image data;

calculating information relating to time required for transmission in a case where the film image data compressed at the compression rate is transmitted to said image server; and

displaying the calculated information related to the transmission time.

29. (Three Times Amended) In an image communication system in

which an image server and a client computer are capable of communicating with each other, an image communication method comprising:

transmitting film image data and information relating to the film image data from said client computer to said image server, the information relating to the film image data corresponding to the type and resolution of a display device in the client computer and the number of colors of the display device;

outputting, in said image server, an image on the basis of the information relating to the film image data transmitted from said client computer;

transmitting the information relating to the film image data transmitted from said client computer from said image server to said client computer; and

retrieving, in said client computer, film image data specified by the information relating to the film image data transmitted from said image server,

wherein said transmitting of film image data to and outputting the image from said image server, and said retrieving of film image data in said client computer, are performed by separate and distinct components in the image communication system.

30. (Three Times Amended) A method of synthesizing images in a client computer which is used in an image communication system in which an image server having a printer and the client computer are capable of communicating with each other, comprising:

receiving a part of printing template image data, which is transmitted from said image server and represents a part of a window-synthesizing user film image, and which is used for printing processing in said printer; and

synthesizing the received part of the printing template film image data and a part of user film image data stored in the client computer.

31. (Twice Amended) A computer-readable recording medium storing a program for transmitting film image data from a client computer which is used in an image communication system in which an image server having an image output device for outputting an image and the client computer are capable of communicating with each other, the program controlling the computer so as to:

reduce the data quantity of film image to be transmitted to said image server such that the data quantity of the film image data to be transmitted is equal to or less than the data quantity of the film image data representing the image to be outputted from said image output device; and

transmit the reduced film image data to said image server

wherein said program further controls film image data reduction processing in the computer so as to designate an image area to be printed of an image represented by film image data of one frame, and extracts partial image area data representing the designated area from said film image data of one frame.

32. (Twice Amended) A computer-readable recording medium storing a program for displaying information in a client computer which is used in an image communication system in which an image server and the client computer are capable of communicating with each other, the program controlling the computer so as to:

set the compression rate of film image data;

calculate information relating to time required for transmission in a case where the film image data compressed at the set compression rate is transmitted to said image server; and

display the calculated information related to the transmission time.

33. (Three Times Amended) A computer-readable recording medium storing a program used in an image communication system in which an image server and a client computer are capable of communicating with each other, the program controlling the computer so as to:

transmit film image data and information relating to the film image data from said client computer to said image server, the information relating to the film image data corresponding to the type and resolution of a display device in the client computer and the number of colors of the display device;

output, in said image server, an image on the basis of the information relating to the film image data transmitted from said client computer;

transmit, from said image server to said client computer, the information relating to the film image data transmitted from said client computer, wherein the information transmitted has undergone display direction conversion processing; and

retrieve, in said client computer, image data specified by the information relating to the film image data transmitted from said image server,

wherein said transmitting of film image data to and outputting the image from said image server, and said retrieving of film image data in said client computer, are performed by separate and distinct components in the image communication system under the control of said program.

34. (Three Times Amended) A computer-readable recording medium storing a program for synthesizing film images in a client computer which is used in an image communication system in which an image server having a printer and the client computer are capable of communicating with each other, the program controlling the computer so as to:

receive a part of printing template image data, which is transmitted from said image server and represents a part of a window-synthesizing user film image, and which is used for printing processing in said printer; and

synthesize the received part of the printing template image data and a part of user film image data stored in the client computer.

35. (Three Times Amended) An image editing system in which an image server and a plurality of client computers are capable of communicating with one another, an image represented by film image data is edited in one of said client computers, and editing information relating to the edited film image is transmitted from said one client computer to said image server,

wherein execution data indicating that an image is edited for the first time or re-edited after said initial editing is transmitted from said one or another client computer to said image server prior to initial editing or subsequent re-editing the film image,

wherein said image server further includes:

a judgment device for judging whether or not the initial editing or re-editing after said initial editing is allowed on the basis of said transmitted execution, and

an allowance data transmission device for transmitting, when said judgement device judges that the initial editing or re-

editing after said initial editing of the image is allowed, allowance data to said one or another client computer which has been allowed to edit or re-edit the film image, and

C7 wherein said one or another client computer further includes a control device for performing the initial editing or re-editing after said initial editing in response to the receiving of allowance data.

41. (Three Times Amended) A client computer constituting a system in which an image server and a plurality of client computers C8 are capable of communicating with one another, comprising:

an image editing device for performing initial editing of a film image and subsequent re-editing of the initially edited film image;

a receiving device for receiving data representing allowance of the initial editing or subsequent re-editing of the film image, which is transmitted from the client computer; and

a controller for controlling the image editing device so as to execute initial editing of the film image, or subsequent re-editing of the edited image in response to reception of the allowance data by the receiving device.

42. (Three Times Amended) An image editing system in which an image server and a plurality of client computers are capable of communicating with one another, an image represented by image film data is edited in one of the client computers, and editing information relating to the edited image is transmitted from the one client computer to said image server,

wherein execution data indicating that a film image is initially edited or re-edited after said initial editing is transmitted from said one or from another of said plurality of

client computers to said image server prior to editing or re-editing the film image,

wherein said image server judges whether or not the initial editing or subsequent re-editing of the film image is allowed on the basis of said transmitted execution data, and transmits, when said judgment device judges that the initial editing or subsequent re-editing of the film image is allowed, allowance data to said one or another client computer which has been allowed to edit or re-edit the film image, and

wherein said one or another client computer performs the initial editing or subsequent re-editing in response to receiving allowance data.

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48. (Three Times Amended) A computer-readable recording medium storing a program for causing a client computer constituting a system in which an image server and a plurality of client computers are capable of communicating with one another to edit a film image, and controlling said client computer so as to:

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receive data representing allowance of initial editing of the film image and/or subsequent re-editing of said initially edited film image, the film image being transmitted from the client computer; and

control the image editing device so as to execute initial editing and/or subsequent re-editing of the film image in response to reception of the allowance data.
